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Letter dated 13 June 2008 from the Permanent Representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

The Security Council heard, at its meeting on Iraq today, certain unfounded allegations against the Islamic Republic of Iran by the representative of the United States. Since the format of the said meeting did not allow my delegation to make a statement at the Council meeting, I should therefore be grateful if you could bring to the attention of the members of the Council the position of my delegation on the said unfounded allegations, as contained in the annex to this letter, and circulate it as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Mohammad **Khazaee**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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Annex to the letter dated 13 June 2008 from the Permanent Representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

Response by the Permanent Mission of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the allegations made against Iran by the representative of the United States at the Security Council meeting on Iraq on 13 June 2008

I wish to inform you and the other members of the Security Council that my delegation rejects the groundless allegations made against Iran by the United States representative at today's meeting of the Council.

Iran has been unambiguous in its condemnation of all acts of violence and terrorism in Iraq. As we have stated in the past, our country has itself been subject to terrorism and suffered from terrorist acts committed in and originating from Iraq, due to the tacit and explicit support extended by the United States Government to certain terrorist groups stationed and operating in Iraq.

Iran's best interest lies in a democratic, secure, stable and prosperous Iraq at peace with itself and with its neighbours. Whereas Iran has been unwavering in its support for the Iraqi Government to bring about stability, security and development to the country, and has proved, time and again, its good intention to help the Iraqi people and the Government to overcome their immense difficulties, the United States Government insists on making unwarranted, unfounded and indeed tired allegations, thus obfuscating the real sources of the problems in Iraq. To date no single piece of evidence has been presented to substantiate these allegations. To the contrary, several high-ranking Iraqi officials are on record, stressing Iran's constructive role in the country and rejecting the said allegations.

In our view, these allegations made by United States officials against Iran are aimed at distracting the international community's attention from the real causes of the problems in Iraq, that is the continuation of the presence of foreign forces in the country and certain wrong policies and practices on their part.

We enjoy deep and brotherly relations with Iraq, relations that have been strengthened even further by the recent high-level visits of officials of the two countries, including the recent visit to Iran paid by Prime Minister Nuri Kamel al-Maliki and also our President's visit to Iraq in March 2008.

Undoubtedly, as the people of Iraq continue on their journey towards peace, security and development, they will always find us behind them offering our unreserved support and sincere cooperation.